Production and import of pesticides, weedicides and insecticides

2814. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the major pesticides, weedicides and insecticides which are imported and formulated in the country;

(b) what was the quantity and value of imports of each during the last 3 years, year-wise;

(c) what are the names of the importing companies and what steps have been taken to indigenise the production;

(d) What was the total CIF value of imports during the last three years, year-wise of each;

(e) whether it is a fact this area is dominated by multinational companies;

(f) if so, what is the number of these companies and what are their names;

(g) whether it is a fact that prices of these commodities are very exorbitent; and

(h) If so, what steps have been taken to impose price control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA): (a) to (d) Necessary details are contained in the "Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India," published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, copy of which is available in the Parliament Library.

(e) and (f) Both multinational as well as Indian companies are manufacturing pesticides in India.

(g) and (h) Prices of these commodities are neither fixed nor monitored by this Ministry.

Industrialisation of Darjeeling district in West Bengal

2815. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Darjeeling district of West Bengal is a 'No Industry District';

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to industrialise this district;

(c) whether any industry has been cleared by Government which is likely to be set up there shortly; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Industrialisation of specific districts/areas is primarily the responsibility of the State Govts./ Union Territories concerned. The Central Government supplements their efforts by providing various incentives and concessions. Darjeeling was declared a 'No Industry Distr'ct' in 1983. Entrepreneurs setting up industries in 'No Industry District' are eligible for incentives such as concessional finance, priority in the grant of industrial licences etc.

(c) and (d) During the period 1987-89, . One letter of intent and Seven Delicensing Registrations (DLRs) were issued for setting up units in Darjeeling District.